

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Previously Amended): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer comprising the addition products of one or more alkylene oxides with one or more of a

homocondensate of a basic amino acid,

a condensate of a mixture of two or more basic amino acids, or a cocondensate of one or more basic amino acids and one or more cocondensable compounds.

Claim 2 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the basic amino acids are selected from the group consisting of lysine, arginine, ornithine and tryptophan.

Claim 3 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the basic amino acid is lysine.

Claim 4 (Previously Amended): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, comprising a cocondensate of one or more basic amino acids and a cocondensable compound, wherein the cocondensable compound is selected from the group consisting of a compound containing one or more carboxylic acid groups, a carboxylic anhydride, a diketene, an amine, a lactam, an alcohol, an alkoxylated alcohol and an alkoxylated amines.

Claim 5 (Previously Amended): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the condensed basic amino acid-containing polymers are obtained by condensing

- (a) lysine alone or
- (b) lysine and at least one compound selected from the group consisting of palmitic acid, stearic acid, lauric acid, octanoic acid, propionic acid, acetic acid, 2-ethylhexanoic acid, adipic acid, succinic acid, citric acid and mixtures thereof.

Claim 6 (Previously Amended): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer is obtained by condensing

- (a) lysine together with
- (b) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of 1,6-hexandiamine, octylamine, aminocaproic acid, aminolauric acid, ϵ -caprolactam, laurolactam, and a C₁₄-/C₂₂-alkyldiketene.

Claim 7 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer has a weight average molecular weight of from 300 to 1,000,000.

Claim 8 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, comprising units of alkylene oxides selected from the group consisting of C₂- to C₃₀-alkylene oxides and styrene oxide.

Claim 9 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, comprising units of alkylene oxides selected from the group consisting of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, butylene oxides and mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer contains per mole of NH bonds of primary and secondary amino groups 0.1 to 100 mol of an alkylene oxide in condensed form.

Claim 11 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer contains per mole of NH bonds of primary and secondary amino groups 0.5 to 20 mol of an alkylene oxide in condensed form.

Claim 12 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, comprising units of alkylene oxides selected from the group consisting of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and mixtures thereof.

Claim 13 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 6, wherein the molar ratio of (a) to (b) is from 100 : 1 to 1 : 10.

Claim 14 (Original): An alkoxylated, condensed amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 6, wherein the molar ratio of (a) to (b) is greater than 1.

Claim 15 (Previously Amended): An alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer as claimed in claim 1, obtained by reacting the basic amino acid-containing polymer with at least one alkylating agent selected from the group consisting of an alkyl halide, a benzyl halide and a dialkyl sulfate.

Claim 16 (Previously Amended): A process for the production of an alkoxylated, condensed basic amino acid-containing polymer, which comprises reacting one or more of a homocondensate of a basic amino acid, a condensate of a mixture of two or more basic amino acids, or a cocondensate of one or more basic amino acids and one or more cocondensable compounds, with at least one alkylene oxide selected from the group consisting of a C₂- to C₃₀-alkylene oxide and styrene oxide.

Claim 17 (Previously Amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the alkylene oxide is selected from the group consisting of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and butylene oxide.

Claim 18 (Original): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the alkylene oxide is ethylene oxide.

Claim 19 (Previously Amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, further comprising reacting the polymer with an alkylating agent selected from the group consisting of an alkyl halide, a benzyl halide and a dialkyl sulfate.

Claim 20 (Previously Amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, further comprising:

reacting the polymer with a compound selected from the group consisting of benzyl chloride, methyl chloride, ethyl chloride, lauryl chloride, palmityl chloride, stearyl chloride, methyl iodide, dimethyl sulfate and diethyl sulfate.